

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 13, 2004 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 14-19 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Creamer (U.S. Patent No. 6,028,917). The Office Action took the position that Creamer disclosed all of the elements of the claimed invention, with the exception of saving service parameters given by the first process in the service request. The Office Action took the position, however, that it would have been obvious to modify Creamer to yield the claimed invention. As will be discussed below, applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and submits that each of presently pending claims 14-19 recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited prior art.

Claim 14, upon which claims 15-19 are dependent, recites a procedure for interprocess data transfer in a telephone exchange system in which the processes transmit messages between themselves in order to provide services between the processes. A first process requests a service from a second process. The second process, based on the request, starts providing the service to the first process and terminates the service when a predetermined condition is fulfilled. A service request is received with the second process from the first process, with the service request comprising service parameters. The procedure includes the steps of saving, informing and refreshing. The method saves, with the second process, service parameters given by the first process in the service

request. The method receives, with the second process, from the first process a service refresh request without any service parameters. The service refresh request relates to the previously requested service. The method refreshes the service in accordance with the saved service parameters when the first process wishes the service to be continued.

In other words, an element of the claimed invention is the second process receiving from the first process a service request comprising service parameters. The second process saves the service parameters; when the second process receives from the first process a service refresh request without any service parameters, the service refresh request relates to the previously requested service. Based on the service refresh request, the service is refreshed in accordance with the saved parameters when the first process wishes the service to be continued. Applicant respectfully submits that Creamer fails to disclose or suggest the elements recited in the presently pending claims, and that Creamer, therefore, fails to provide the critical and unobvious advantages that are provided by the present invention.

Creamer discloses a predefined class of authorized users of the PSTN (public switched telephone network) access to extended telephone services through public communication networks external to the PSTN, including the web and Internet. Authorized users in the predefined class can receive the extended services at their residences, offices, and at a remote location. Authorized users can activate respective extended services through the external networks. The extended telephone services include variations of standard telephone services such as call waiting, caller ID, call

forwarding facsimile image transmittal, and voice mail. Analog telephone signals are intercepted and redirected in digital form through external data communication networks such as the web. A web user who is also in the class of the authorized PSTN users can activate and receive delivery of the extended telephone services at a computer linked to the PSTN intelligence through the web. Thus, the web user can receive the extended services through a telephone line associated with a base telephone account.

*Net
C/A mod.
in class 17*

A person of skill in the art would understand that Creamer cannot be interpreted as disclosing or suggesting a configuration wherein service duration can be set to a predetermined value. Creamer, on the other hand, discloses a telephone service to provide extended services such as call waiting indications to a computer through an external network such as the Worldwide Web or the Internet. This allows a user to screen waiting calls, ignore unwanted calls, route calls to extended voice mail services, and/or immediately accept delivery of a call. Analog signals, indicating the origins of waiting calls, are redirected to an authorized user's computer via the web, and displayed to the user on the computer's display. The displayed indications can enable the user to screen and rank their importance. However, there is simply no disclosure nor suggestion in Creamer of any configuration which saves service parameters given by a first process in a service request. There is no disclosure nor suggestion of service being refreshed in accordance with the saved parameters when the first process wishes the service to be continued. According to Creamer, as discussed previously, when the extended services are forwarded to the user computer, the user computer is not informed that the extended

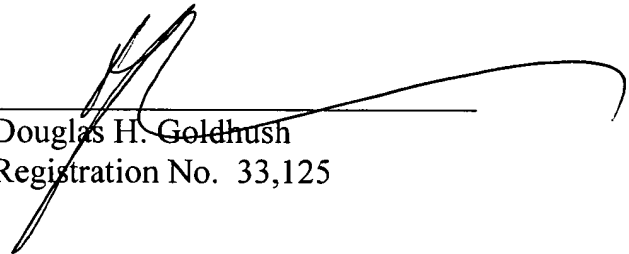
services concern a service to be refreshed. Creamer, on the other hand, can only initiate a repeat process when the user remains connected to the web, as discussed in Column 15, lines 1-5, after the termination of a telephone call, and not because the second process was informed that the services requested concerned a service to be refreshed.

As discussed above, therefore, applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in Creamer. Claims 15-19, dependent upon claim 14, recite additional elements which are neither disclosed nor suggested in Creamer. Applicant therefore submits that the clear and important distinctions which exist between the claimed invention and the cited prior art are more than sufficient to render the claimed invention unobvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that claims 14-19 be found allowable, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas H. Goldhush
Registration No. 33,125

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

DHG:scc